



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 466

February Session, 2002

**AN ACT CONCERNING OVERSIGHT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN
CONNECTICUT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Southeastern Connecticut
2 Council of Governments, established under sections 4-124i to 4-124p,
3 inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended, shall have oversight of
4 the activities of the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority. In
5 exercising such oversight, the council of governments shall have the
6 following responsibilities:

7 (1) To appoint and, for cause, to remove members of the authority;

8 (2) To appoint three municipal chief elected officials to the authority
9 to represent the council of governments;

10 (3) To appoint an independent auditor to audit the accounts, books
11 and records of the authority on an annual basis and to review the
12 completed audit with the authority;

13 (4) To meet at least annually with the authority and to call
14 additional special meetings with the authority as the council of
15 governments deems necessary to review the progress and financial
16 condition of the authority and to discuss issues relating to water
17 supply and the operation of the authority; and

18 (5) To establish procedures and policies, jointly with the authority,
19 to govern the basis on which the authority shall coordinate its activities
20 to cooperatively develop the water supply and distribution system
21 necessary for an integrated regional water network.

22 Sec. 2. Section 5 of number 381 of the special acts of 1967 is amended
23 to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

24 A corporation known as the "Southeastern Connecticut Water
25 Authority" is created for the purposes, charged with the duties and
26 granted the powers provided in [this act] number 381 of the special
27 acts of 1967. The authority shall be a body corporate and politic. The
28 authority shall consist of [five] seven members, [who shall not be
29 members of the advisory board,] all of whom shall be residents of the
30 district, [and who] Three members shall be chief elected officials of
31 municipalities that are members of the Southeastern Connecticut
32 Council of Governments. Each member of the authority shall be
33 appointed by a majority of [those members of the representative
34 advisory board] the council of governments present at a meeting at
35 which two-thirds of the membership of said [advisory board] council
36 of governments are present, [in person or by proxy,] for terms of five
37 years, [and until their successors are appointed and have qualified,
38 except that of the members first appointed one shall be appointed for a
39 term of five years, one for a term of four years, one for a term of three
40 years, one for a term of two years and one for a term of one year. Not
41 more than three members of the authority shall be members of the
42 same political party] or in the case of municipal chief elected officials,
43 for their current terms as municipal chief elected officials. Initial
44 appointments of members of the authority, except members who are
45 municipal chief elected officials, shall be as follows: One shall be
46 appointed for a term of four years, one for a term of three years, one
47 for a term of two years and one for a term of one year. Thereafter,
48 appointments shall be for five years. Vacancies on the authority shall
49 be filled by appointments by the [advisory board] council of
50 governments for the unexpired terms. Members of the authority may
51 be removed from office by the [advisory board] for cause. Members of

52 the authority [shall receive such compensation for their services as
53 shall be fixed by the advisory board and] shall be reimbursed for their
54 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

55 Sec. 3. Section 7 of number 381 of the special acts of 1967 is amended
56 to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

57 The officers of the authority shall be a chairman, a vice chairman,
58 [and] a treasurer, [who shall be members of the authority,] and a
59 secretary, [who need not be a member of the authority] each of whom
60 shall be members of the authority. The first chairman shall be
61 designated by the [advisory board] council of governments for a
62 [three-year] one-year term and subsequent chairmen shall be elected
63 by the authority for [three-year terms] one-year terms. All other
64 officers shall be appointed by the authority for one-year terms and
65 shall serve at the pleasure of the authority. The officers may be elected
66 or appointed to consecutive terms. The treasurer shall execute a bond,
67 conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of his office,
68 the amount and sufficiency of which shall be approved by the
69 authority and the premium therefor shall be paid by the authority.

70 Sec. 4. Section 9 of number 381 of the special acts of 1967 is amended
71 to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

72 The powers of the authority shall be exercised by the members at a
73 meeting duly called and held, and [three] four members shall
74 constitute a quorum. No action shall be taken except pursuant to the
75 favorable vote of at least [three] four members. The authority may
76 delegate to one or more of its members, officers, agents or employees
77 such powers and duties as it may deem proper.

78 Sec. 5. Section 27 of number 381 of the special acts of 1967 is
79 amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

80 (a) The authority shall have an annual audit of its accounts, books
81 and records by a certified public accountant selected by the
82 [representative advisory board] council of governments. A copy of the

83 audit shall be delivered to the municipalities in the district and to the
 84 public utilities commission. A concise financial statement shall be
 85 published annually, at least once, in a newspaper of general circulation
 86 in the municipality where the principal office of the authority is
 87 located. If such publication is not made by the authority, the
 88 [representative advisory board] council of governments shall publish
 89 such statement at the expense of the authority. If the authority fails to
 90 make such an audit, the auditor or accountant designated by the
 91 [representative advisory board] council of governments shall examine,
 92 at the expense of the authority, the accounts and books of the
 93 authority, including its receipts, disbursements, contracts, leases,
 94 sinking funds, investments and any other matters relating to its
 95 finances, operation and affairs.

96 (b) The attorney general shall have the right to examine the books,
 97 accounts and records of the authority.

98 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) Section 4 of number 381 of the special
 99 acts of 1967, as amended by section 1 of number 206 of the special acts
 100 of 1969 and special act 73-64, is repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>

PD Joint Favorable Subst.